

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 remain pending.

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider earlier rejections in light of the following remarks. No new issues are raised nor is further search required as a result of the changes made herein. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Interview Summary

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for granting and conducting an interview for the subject application on July 12, 2006. Based on a lack of disclosure from Vrain, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the rejection of claims 1-11. Moreover, the Examiner stated that she would re-review Huerga's communication between a security badge and a security station to verify that such communications were not establishing a network, a term of art.

To further prosecution toward a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner stated she would call the Applicants to discuss any further amendments to the claims to overcome the cited prior art.

Claims 12-27 over Huerga

In the Office Action, claims 12-15, 18, 20-23 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated U.S. Patent No. 5,960,085 to de la Huerga ("Huerga"), with claims 16, 17, 19, 24, 25 and 27 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Huerga. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 12-27 recite a system and method of establishing a wireless network between a network security station and a plurality of electronic wireless badges.

As discussed above, the rejection of claims 12-27 on page 2 of the Office Action fails to address the claimed feature of claims 12-27 of establishing a wireless network between a network security station and a plurality of electronic wireless badges. However, the Examiner now argues in the Response to Arguments section of the Office Action that Huerga discloses establishing a

wireless network between a network security station and a plurality of electronic wireless badges at col. 4, lines 40-58.

The Examiner appears correct that Huerga at col. 4, lines 40-58 discloses a wireless information exchange that is accomplished between an electronic wireless badge and a network security station via a computer with a database (see col. 4, lines 40-44). The security station intermittently transmits interrogation signal to detect, authenticate and establish communications with nearby security badges (see col. 4, lines 49-52). However, Huerga at col. 4, lines 40-58 only discloses single network, i.e., a hospital computer network. In fact Huerga himself differentiates between simple communications, i.e., that between a security badge and a computer terminal, and a network, i.e., a hospital computer network. Huerga only discloses that a security badge can communicate with a computer terminal not form a network, a term of art, with a security station, much less disclose or suggest establishing a wireless network between a network security station and a plurality of electronic wireless badges, as recited by claims 12-27.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 12-27 are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-11 over Huerga in view of Vrain and Bork

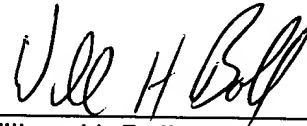
In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Huerga in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,028,012 to St. Vrain ("Vrain"), with claims 4 and 10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Huerga in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,246,376 Bork et al. ("Bork").

As discussed above, the Examiner agreed during the interview conducted on July 12, 2006 discussing Vrain's disclosure to withdraw the rejection of claims 1-11.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William H. Bollman', written over a horizontal line.

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